TSONKE LE, ČUŠKA ČERVENA

As sung by Stefka Sŭbotinova and Tinka Peševa

Tsonke le čuška červena
tri pŭti v mandža turena
Tsonke le čushka červena
tri pŭti v mandzha turena /2
dva pŭti v bukluk hvŭrlena
Čuškata lyuta pak lyuta
I ti si, Tsonke le, kat neya

Tsonka, little red pepper put into the stew three times and into the garbage twice

Pŭrviyat beše svinarin selskite svini paseše selskite svini paseše na tebe fusta da kupi Čuškata lyuta pak lyuta I ti si, Tsonke le, kat neya Oh hot little pepper Tsonka, you're exactly like her!

The first one was a swineherd who pastured the village pigs

so that he could buy you a fine skirt

Dva pŭti si godyavana tri pŭti si venčavana Dva pŭti si godyavana tri pŭti si venčavana Čuškata lyuta pak lyuta I ti si, Tsonke le, kat neya You were engaged twice and married three times

Vtoriyat beše konyarin selski katŭri paseše selski katŭri paseše na tebe chehli da kupi Čuškata lyuta pak lyuta I ti si, Tsonke le, kat neya

The second one was a horseman who pastured the village mules

so that he could buy you slippers

Tretiyat beše berberin kelyavi bradi brŭsneše kelyavi bradi brŭsneše na teb belilo da kupi

The third was a barber who shaved scraggly beards

Čuškata lyuta pak lyuta I ti si, Tsonke le, kat neya so that he could buy you face powder

Notation and translation by Lauren Brody 2022 Presented by Lauren Brody Gems of Bulgarian Song, Series 2, Spring 2022